**Sale of kidneys by Tribals**

2039. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that starving tribals of certain districts like Idukki are selling kidneys to make a living;

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected in last one year; and

(c) the action proposed to provide alternate employment to poor tribals for their sustenance?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) The Government of Kerala have informed the Ministry that there are no instances reported from the State where tribals have sold their kidneys because of starvation. Four cases of kidney sale by tribals from Idukki District have come to the notice of State Government the reason behind the sale, as established by enquiry being not the starvation but for making money for other purposes.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Educational facilities for Buksa and Raji Tribal Girls in Uttaranchal**

†2040. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 208 given in the Rajya Sabha on 6th August, 2001 and state:

(a) the details of educational facilities to be provided to the girls of the Buksa and Raji tribes; and

(b) whether any school has been started at Udham Singh Nagar for them?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) A Scheme of setting up Educational Complexes in low literacy pockets to provide educational facilities to tribal girls including Buksas and Rajis (Primitive Tribal Groups) in Uttaranchal, has been in operation since 1993-94. Under the Scheme, 100% grants are released to the institutions or organizations set up by State Government as autonomous bodies;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

educational and other institutions and Non-Governmental Organizations, for setting up and running of Educational Complexes for tribal girls.

(b) No, Sir.

**Scholarships for higher education in it to Tribals**

†2041. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any publicity was given by his Ministry regarding award of scholarships to tribal students for pursuing higher education in the field of Information Technology in America;

(b) if so, the total number of persons who applied for this;

(c) whether Government received any application from Uttaranchal in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the persons benefited from this?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) An advertisement was published in December, 2000 and 2001 inviting applications for the selection year 2000-2001 under the Scheme of "National Overseas Scholarship for SCs, STs etc." for pursuing higher studies in 20 subjects which *inter-alia*, includes Information Technology. As per the selected candidates can pursue their respective studies in any accredited university/institution in any of the country of choice with which India has diplomatic relations. As such it includes the USA.

(b) A total number of 54 applications have been received from ST candidates.

(c) and (d) One application has been received from a candidate of Uttaranchal State for pursuing an M. Sc in Computer Engineering. No candidate has been selected for the Selection year 2000-2001 so far.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.